

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/528,207

Examiner

Jay R. Ripley

Applicant(s)

HAGEN, HARALD

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09/06/2007 + tel. int. of 11/9/07

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 09/06/2007 has been entered.

## **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Bradley L. Smith on 09 November 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, lines 18-20, "said second sealing ring surrounding and overlapping at least one thread of the externally threaded portion of the screw-in part" has been replaced by --said second sealing ring surrounding and overlapping and in contact with at least one thread of the externally threaded portion of the screw-in part--.

In claim 3, line 2, "second annular portions" has been replaced by --second planar annular portions--.

In claim 5, line 4, "on the screw-in part, can be screwed into" has been replaced by --on the screw-in part can be screwed into--.

In claim 6, lines 2-3, "the first annular portion is designed to be smaller in diameter than the second annular portion" has been replaced by -- the first planar annular portion is designed to be smaller in diameter than the second planar annular portion--.

In claim 8, lines 19-21, "wherein the second sealing ring surrounds and overlaps at least one thread of the externally threaded portion of the screw-in part" has been replaced by --wherein the second sealing ring surrounds and overlaps and contacts at least one thread of the externally threaded portion of the screw-in part--.

In claim 8, line 25, "upper sealing chamber" has been replaced by --upper sealing ring chamber--.

In claim 10, line 2, "lower annular portions" has been replaced by --lower planar annular portions--.

In claim 13, line 2, "the upper annular portion being smaller in diameter than the lower annular portion" has been replaced by --the upper planar annular portion being smaller in diameter than the lower planar annular portion--.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 1, lines 18-20, the closest prior art of Neuschotz (U.S. 3,212,792) discloses the claimed adapter assembly with the exception that the second sealing ring surrounding and overlapping and in contact with at least one thread of the externally threaded portion of the screw-in part.

As to claim 8, lines 19-21, the closest prior art of Neuschotz (U.S. 3,212,792) discloses the claimed adapter assembly with the exception that the second sealing ring surrounds and overlaps and contacts at least one thread of the externally threaded portion of the screw-in part.

There is no teaching or suggestion, absent the applicant's own disclosure, for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the adapter assembly of Neuschotz (U.S. 3,212,792) to have the above mentioned features.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jay R. Ripley whose telephone number is 571-272-7535. The examiner can normally be reached on 01:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

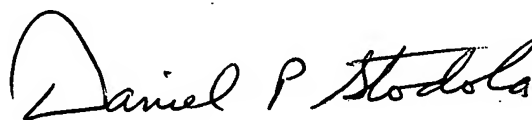
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
J. R. Ripley



DANIEL P. STODOLA  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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